

**Amendments to the Claims**

Re-write the claims as set forth below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

[0001] (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy consisting essentially of:

(a) 92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy comprised consisting essentially of:

approximately 24-34% by weight zinc;

~~approximately 60-74% by weight copper;~~

approximately 0.5-1.8% by weight silicon; and

hardening agents consisting of approximately 0-8% by weight tin without further hardening elements and blending elements and approximately 60-74% by weight copper.

[0002] (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy consisting essentially of:

(a) 92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy consisting essentially of:

approximately 24%  $\pm$  1.2% by weight zinc;

~~approximately 69.8-79.8% by weight copper; and~~

approximately 1.2%  $\pm$  0.06% by weight silicon; and

a hardening agent consisting of approximately 74.8%  $\pm$  3.74% by weight copper.

[0003] (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy consisting essentially of:

(a) 92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy consisting essentially of:

approximately 32.6%  $\pm$  1.63% by weight zinc;

approximately 59.7-69.7% by weight copper;

approximately 0.6%  $\pm$  0.03% by weight silicon; and

hardening agents consisting of approximately 1.2%  $\pm$  0.06% by weight tin; and

approximately 0.9%  $\pm$  0.05% by weight indium, and

approximately 59.7-69.7% by weight copper.

[0004] (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy consisting essentially of:

(a) 92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy consisting essentially of:

approximately 29.75% by weight zinc;

approximately 62.15% by weight copper;

approximately 1.35% by weight silicon; and

hardening agents consisting of approximately 62.15% by weight copper; and

approximately 6.75% by weight tin; .

[0005] (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant jewelry consisting essentially of:

(a) 92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy consisting essentially of:

approximately 24.0% by weight zinc;

approximately 74.8% by weight copper; and

approximately 1.2% by weight silicon ~~without further hardening elements and blending elements.~~; and

a hardening agent consisting of approximately 74.8% by weight copper.

[0006] (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant jewelry consisting essentially of:

(a) 92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy consisting essentially of:

approximately 32.6% by weight zinc;

~~approximately 64.7% by weight copper;~~

approximately 0.6% by weight silicon;

hardening agents consisting of approximately 64.7% by weight copper;

approximately 0.9% by weight tin, and

approximately 1.2% by weight indium.

[0007] (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant jewelry consisting essentially of:

(a) 92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy consisting essentially of:

29.75 % by weight zinc;

~~62.15% by weight copper;~~

1.35% by weight silicon; and

hardening agents consisting of 6.75% by weight tin and 62.15% by weight copper.

[0008] (Currently Amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant jewelry consisting essentially of:

(a) 92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy consisting essentially of:

32.60 % by weight zinc;

64.70% by weight copper;

0.60% by weight silicon; and

hardening agents consisting of 64.70% by weight copper;

0.90% by weight tin; and

1.20% by weight indium.

[0009] (Withdrawn). A tarnish-resistance, corrosion-resistance-improving alloy consisting essentially of:

24.0% by weight zinc;

74.8% by weight copper; and

1.2% by weight silicon.

[00010] ( Withdrawn). A tarnish-resistance, corrosion-resistance-improving alloy consisting essentially of:

29.75% by weight zinc;  
62.15% by weight copper;  
1.35% by weight silicon; and  
6.75% by weight tin.

[00011] (Withdrawn). A tarnish-resistance, corrosion-resistance-improving alloy consisting essentially of:

32.60% by weight zinc;  
64.70% by weight copper;  
0.60% by weight silicon;  
0.90% by weight tin; and  
1.20% by weight indium.

[00012] (Withdrawn). A tarnish-resistance, corrosion-resistance-improving alloy consisting essentially of:

24.0% by weight zinc;  
74.8% by weight copper;  
1.2% by weight silicon;  
0.0% tin; and

0.0 % indium.

[00013] (Withdrawn). A tarnish-resistance, corrosion-resistance-improving alloy consisting essentially of:

29.75% by weight zinc;

62.15% by weight copper;

1.35% by weight silicon;

6.75% by weight tin; and

0.0% indium.

[00014] (Withdrawn). A method of making a tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant silver-colored alloy comprised of the steps of:

depositing a first amount of silver in a crucible;

adding a second amount of Sterilite alloy to the crucible;

heating the silver and Sterilite in the crucible;

mixing the silver and Sterilite between the temperatures of approximately 875°C (1605°F) and 1010°C (1850°F);

holding the temperature of the mixed silver and Sterilite at a temperature of 1010°C (1850°F) for 30 seconds;

cooling the mixture to approximately 850°C (1562°F);

re-heating the mixture to approximately 980°C (1796°F); and

pouring the molten mixture into a mold.

[00015] (Withdrawn). The method of claim 12 further comprised of the step of adding a flux to the Sterilite prior to heating in the crucible.

[00016] (Withdrawn). The method of claim 12 wherein the step of adding a flux is comprised of adding a small of amount of Borax and Boric Acid to the Sterilite alloy.

[00017] (Currently amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy ~~comprised~~ consisting essentially of:

approximately 24-34% by weight zinc;

approximately 0.5-1.8% by weight silicon; and

further comprising a hardening agent consisting of approximately 60-74% by weight copper.

[00018] (Previously presented) The alloy of claim 17, and further comprising approximately 0-8% by weight tin.

[00019] (Previously presented) The alloy of claim 17, and further comprising approximately  $0.9\% \pm 0.05\%$  by weight indium.

[00020] (Currently amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy consisting essentially of:

approximately  $24\% \pm 1.2\%$  by weight zinc;

approximately  $1.2\% \pm 0.06\%$  by weight silicon; and

further comprising a hardening agent consisting of approximately  $74.8\% \pm 3.74\%$  by weight copper.

[00021] (Previously presented) The alloy of claim 20, and further comprising approximately  $1.2\% \pm 0.06\%$  by weight tin.

[00022] (Previously presented) The alloy of claim 20, and further comprising approximately  $0.9\% \pm 0.05\%$  by weight indium.

[00023] (Currently amended) A silver-colored, tarnish-resistant, corrosion-resistant alloy consisting essentially of:

92.5 to 95% by weight silver, the balance of which is an alloy consisting essentially of:

approximately 32.6%  $\pm$  1.63% by weight zinc;

approximately 0.6%  $\pm$  0.03% by weight silicon; and

further comprising a hardening agent consisting of approximately 64.7%  $\pm$  3.24% by weight copper.

[00024] (Previously presented) The alloy of claim 23, and further comprising approximately 1.2%  $\pm$  0.06% by weight tin.

[00025] (Previously presented) The alloy of claim 23, and further comprising approximately 0.9%  $\pm$  0.05% by weight indium.